

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY LIVESTOCK SHOW**

**WHEREAS**, this year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show, which will be held March 7 through 17 in Mercedes. The Livestock Show started as a means for students to show their animals and earn prizes and has since evolved into an arena for teaching and community involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show is a non-profit educational organization with a Board of Directors representing all of the four south-most counties of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to providing a safe, fun, family-oriented community event, the Livestock Show helps promote South Texas youth through leadership development and agricultural education. Millions of dollars have been provided to FFA and 4-H exhibitors over the years, including \$1.8 million raised for scholarships in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 300,000 people attended last year's show, which was an increase of 50,000 people from the previous year; and

**WHEREAS**, after a successful pilot program in 2018, this year's show will feature events for over 1,600 special needs students from 18 school districts; and

**WHEREAS**, the show's success relies on a 17-member Board of Directors and six honorary advisory directors lead by President Mike Risica, 11 staff members lead by General Manager D.J. Wernecke, and 650 volunteers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby honors the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show for 80 years of exemplary work in providing a family-friendly, fun and educational environment for the community.

**Approved this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2019.**



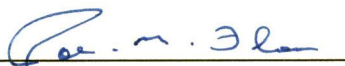
**RICHARD F. CORTEZ**  
County Judge



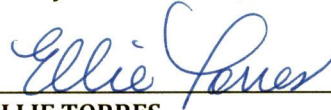
**DAVID L. FUENTES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1



**EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2



**JOE M. FLORES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3



**ELLIE TORRES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4



**Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**  
County Clerk